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(54) Title: METHOD FOR BREEDING TOMATOES HAVING REDUCED WATER CONTENT AND PRODUCT OF THE METHOD

(57) Abstract: A method for breeding tomato plants that produce tomatoes with reduced fruit water content including the steps of crossing at least one *Lycopersicon esculentum* plant with a *Lycopersicon* spp. to produce hybrid seed, collecting the first generation of hybrid seeds, growing plants from the first generation of hybrid seeds, pollinating the plants of the most recent hybrid generation, collecting the seeds produced by the most recent hybrid generation, growing plants from the seeds of the most recent hybrid generation, allowing plants to remain on the vine past the point of normal ripening, and screening for reduced fruit water content as indicated by extended preservation of the ripe fruit and wrinkling of the fruit skin.

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